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By JERRY KLEIN
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The percentage wasn't quite that high, of course, but historians agree the Irish were represented far above their proportion in the country's total population. Like Barry, they'd left home to find a better life in the New World—and there was enough Irish to hold a lively St. Patrick's Day celebration in Boston as early as 1737.

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At first I thought it was going to be lots of fun, meeting new people and making new friends; but now I see that it is not any fun at all. It is pretty lonely.

Of all the children my age around here, none is ever home. All are working at something, such as cutting grass; and some even work as caddies at the local golf course, to make money.

When I first met the kids in this neighborhood, they all asked me to come and work with them; but I said "no," as I had never cut grass for anybody in my whole life. After this, things got worse; and, just because I have nothing to do, they started hating me, talking behind my back, calling me "lazy" and things like that.

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Unfortunately you "have nothing to do," you say, which means you aren't a live wire. You don't cut any ice, so the kids look down on you. The basic remedy is to get busy and build up a program of "doing" that appeals to you, and leads to skills and enthusiasms shared by others. Then you'll find friends falling in step with you, maybe not at once, but gradually. For firsthand help, talk things over with a scout leader or YMCA counselor, or similar guide to youth in your city.

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